

# *News Clippings*

## *2/13/08*

### **FIRE**

#### **Gary**

Boy, 13, dies in East Chicago house fire

[Read the Article](#)

### **FLOODING**

#### **Delphi**

Rainy Day Fund used for Feb. bills

[Read the Article](#)

Items for flood victims shipped from California

[Read the Article](#)

Small Business Administration offers help

[Read the Article](#)

#### **Indianapolis**

Flood zone changes confuse residents

[Read the Article](#)

Lake Shafer

[Read the Article](#)

#### **Lafayette**

Ice jam causes flooding on Lake Shafer

[Read the Article](#)

Ice jam sends water back into White County homes, businesses

[Read the Article](#)

Ice jam causes more flooding

[Read the Article](#)

Schools await waivers for missed days

[Read the Article](#)

Ice jam still causing problems on Lake Shafer

[Read the Article](#)

Help for Jasper County Flood Victims

[Read the Article](#)

Bad Weather Causing Potholes, Damaging Cars

[Read the Article](#)

Ice jam on Lake Shafer causes more flooding

[Read the Article](#)

# Post-Tribune

## Boy, 13, dies in East Chicago house fire

February 13, 2008

By Christin Nance Lazerus Post-Tribune staff writer

EAST CHICAGO -- A 13-year-old boy died in a house fire possibly started by a bathroom candle on Monday night.

Trevone McCollum, 13, was found dead in an upstairs bedroom. The Lake County Coroner's Office ruled that he died of smoke inhalation. He did not suffer any external trauma.

The East Chicago Police and Fire Departments were alerted to the blaze at 9:39 p.m. and arrived quickly.

East Chicago Fire Chief Val Gomez said the blaze was confined to the second floor of a brick home at 4432 Olcott Ave. Firefighters extinguished the blaze within 5 to 10 minutes.

Trevone's mother, Kimberly, was yelling hysterically for firefighters to "get my baby, get my baby, he's still upstairs."

The father, Tremaye McCollum, told police that Trevone and daughter Tremya, 8, were asleep in their upstairs bedrooms, while he and his wife, Kimberly, were sleeping downstairs. They awoke to sounds of their son screaming that the house was on fire.

Tremaye McCollum ran upstairs and grabbed his daughter. Tremya burned her feet running through the fire. He went back for his son, but the fire was too intense to access the rear bedroom.

Tremaye McCollum ran outside to the rear west side of the house. He climbed up to the bedroom and started to break the bedroom window with a pot. He suffered cuts to his hands.

Kimberly McCollum fainted and injured her leg. Tremya and Kimberly McCollum were transported to St. Catherine Hospital for treatment. Tremya McCollum is being treated at the Children's Memorial Hospital burn unit in Chicago.

Detective Jeff Roseboom of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Division of Fire and Building Safety, said the fire will be ruled accidental, and investigators can't rule out the possibility of unattended candles as a cause.

Kimberly McCollum is employed at the East Chicago Post Office.

Family spokeswoman Shirley Noland, the postmaster, said she set up a donation memorial fund at Fifth Third Bank; donations will be accepted at all branches.

Noland said she is in the process of setting up a place for the family to stay through the Red Cross.

Contact Christin Nance Lazerus at 648-3086 or [cnance@post-trib.com](mailto:cnance@post-trib.com)

[Back to Gary](#)

# *Carroll County Comet*

---

## **Rainy Day Fund used for Feb. bills**

Council urges commissioners to act on personnel policy changes

**By Debbie Lowe Staff writer**

### **Other transfers**

The council transferred \$200,000 from the Rainy-Day Fund to the general fund.

A request from the Carroll County Parks Board to transfer \$149.70 from the French Post Park restrooms account to park attendants account was approved in a five-to-one vote. Jerry Hendress voted against the transfer. He said gasoline was used by "someone" and he believed the \$149.70 had been "paid in kind" to the park attendants.

Assessor Doris McLeland was granted permission to transfer \$12,000 in the reassessment fund from maintenance/new construction to the AdValorem firm, which will provide reassessments for flood-damaged structures and land.

The county health department was granted permission to hire a food inspector for \$9.55/hour, with no benefits, paid out of the tobacco and health maintenance funds.

[\*Back to Delphi\*](#)

# *Carroll County Comet*

---

## Items for flood victims shipped from California **Comet staff report**

The news of local flooding has spread far and wide.

When Nicki McCain of California heard about the situation, she wanted to do something to help. She is the daughter of Dan McCain and Ginger McCain of Delphi.

During the summers of her growing up years, she spent time with her grandparents, Ed and Millie Waymire, at their cottage on the Tippecanoe River.

Nicki works in the Paramount Studio office in the Los Angeles area. She put out a call to her friends and coworkers to help the Carroll County flood victims. They collected dozens of pairs of tennis shoes, toys, and other useful items, and Nicki shipped them to her mother.

The donated items have arrived and can be picked up by flood victims at the Deacon's Closet downstairs in the Delphi Presbyterian Church. The shoes are used - designed to wear for flood clean-up.

"My time on the Tippecanoe with my family means a lot to me," Nicki said. "I hope these toys and shoes will help. My friends and coworkers wish the best to everyone in need."

[Back to Delphi](#)



## Small Business Administration offers help

### Comet staff report

Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loans are for homeowners, renters and businesses of any size.

SBA Disaster Loans are the primary form of Federal assistance to repair/replace damaged private property not fully covered by insurance or other compensation.

Also, while the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is still open in Delphi and Small Business Administration staff is available, homeowners, renters and businesses of any size that have received an SBA Disaster Loan Application are encouraged to visit the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

The SBA staff can provide one-on-one assistance in helping anyone get their application complete and the applications can be turned-in to SBA staff at the DRC.

The sooner the SBA receives applications the sooner they can start the process in getting assistance toward recovery.

If SBA is not able to approve a home loan, SBA will refer that applicant back to FEMA for any possible assistance they might be able to provide.

The SBA also encourages applicants to not wait on insurance settlement. SBA can start the process without any insurance settlement information.

These are low-interest loans with terms that can go up to 30 years. The low rate for homeowners and renters is 2.937 percent and the low rate for businesses is 4 percent. SBA Disaster Loans can make recovery affordable with low rates and long terms.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replaced damaged or destroyed real estate.

Homeowners and Renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property, such as furniture, clothing, auto, etc.

Businesses of any size and private not-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

For small businesses only, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loans assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Physical damage loans may be increased by as much as 20 percent to protect property against future disaster of the same type.

Visit the SBA in the Disaster Recovery Center in the old middle school gym on Monroe St. in Delphi.

[\*Back to Delphi\*](#)



February 13, 2008

## Flood zone changes confuse residents

February 13, 2008

Bill Edie and his Broadway Drive neighbors in Plainfield are confused about new federal maps proposing to put their Plainfield homes in a flood-prone area near White Lick Creek.

Nearly 2,500 properties throughout Hendricks County, including the homes of Edie and his neighbors, have been included or removed from designated flood-prone areas on the maps.

They weren't in the flood zones on the last maps, drawn nearly 30 years ago.

However, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are updating the old maps with many changes.

Edie said homes off South Center Street near Hummel Park never have had a big problem with rising water. Even on Labor Day 2003, when 9 inches of rain fell during 24 hours, water flowed in their streets from a storm water pipe, but the houses stayed high and dry.

"The flood plain levels on these new maps are the same numbers as the old maps, so why would we be required to have flood insurance now?" Edie asked.

Dave Knipe, engineering section manager for the Department of Natural Resources, explained that the elevations are determined for both insurance and for construction proposes.

Elevations with a 1 percent chance of a flood at least once in 100 years may be in a designated zone. Structures may be required to be at least 2 feet above the 100-year flood level to qualify for flood insurance and for a federally backed mortgage.

The Plainfield Town Council has hired Banning Engineering, a local firm, to help investigate before the maps are finalized.

Town Engineer Tim Belcher wants to confirm whether homes such as Edie's fall within the newly designated flood zones. "We have a little window of time before the deadline to make corrections, because after that time it is very, very difficult to get FEMA to make any changes," Belcher said.

FEMA and the Department of Natural Resources are revising flood insurance maps in Indiana in a county-by-county project that is taking several years and millions of dollars to complete.

Some neighboring counties already have been revised. Changes affected about 11,000 properties in Marion County.

[Back to Indianapolis](#)





9:04 AM February 13, 2008

## Lake Shafer ice jam causes more flooding

By JOE LARSON

Lafayette Journal & Courier

February 13, 2008

MONTICELLO -- A massive ice jam on Lake Shafer Tuesday caused 5 to 7 inches of water to flow into an unknown number of homes and at least one business.

"I have lived up here all my life and never seen one this bad," said Dan Stearns of Monticello, who marveled at the ice jam from the grounds of Tall Timbers Marina Tuesday afternoon.

To try to break up the tightly-packed ice, NIPSCO repeatedly sped up and slowed down the flow of water through the Norway Dam, according to Gordon Cochran, director of White County's emergency management agency.

He hoped that fluctuating the flow between 7,700 and 9,000 cubic feet per second would be enough to budge the ice. "If the ice moves a little bit, we're going to be OK," Cochran said Tuesday night. "If it doesn't, we're probably going to have more water in houses tomorrow."

But the jam was still there late Tuesday.

The emergency management agency also deployed sandbags to prevent further flooding.

Areas affected by Tuesday's flooding included homes along Stahl Road, West Shafer Drive, Bedford Bay Court and Apple Knob Drive. It was not immediately clear how many homes were damaged.

The water level near Buffalo has also been reported to be rising again, according to Cochran.

Flood-prone areas in Tippecanoe County weren't being impacted by the northern ice jam as of Tuesday, Emergency Management Director Mark Kirby said, but local officials are keeping an eye on the situation. If the jam does cause flooding in the area, Kirby said it would likely be later in the week.

The weather today should help slow any possible flooding. The day should be dry with a high of about 27 degrees, according to meteorologist Chad Omitt of the National Weather Service.

[Back to Indianapolis](#)



## Ice jam causes flooding on Lake Shafer

STAFF REPORTS

February 12, 2008

MONTICELLO - An ice jam on Lake Shafer is leading to some flooding along the western leg of the lake, north of Indiana Beach.

According White County's deputy emergency management director Rose Brady, flooding is occurring in the areas of Stahl Road, Bedford Bay and other areas north of Indiana Beach along the lake's western leg.

An unknown number of homes have been affected, she said.

Evacuations have not been ordered. However, the Red Cross has established an emergency shelter at the First Assembly of God Church on Indiana 16 in Monon, she said.

[Back to Lafayette](#)



## **Ice jam sends water back into White County homes, businesses**

**STAFF REPORTS**

February 12, 2008

MONTICELLO - An ice jam on Lake Shafer caused some flooding Tuesday afternoon, but emergency officials are working to keep the water in check.

"We've got houses and a business with 5 to 7 inches of water in them," said Gordon Cochran, White County's emergency management agency director.

The Norway Dam is releasing more water in an effort to prevent the situation from getting worse, Cochran said. The emergency management agency is also deploying sandbags to prevent further flooding.

Areas with at least some flooding include Stahl Road, Bedford Bay Court, Apple Knob Drive and Boller Court, Cochran said.

The water level near Buffalo has also been reported to be rising again, according to Cochran.

Evacuations have not been ordered. However, the Red Cross has established an emergency shelter at the First Assembly of God Church on Indiana 16 in Monon, according to Rose Brady, White County's deputy emergency management director.

For updates, check [jconline.com](http://jconline.com).

[Back to Lafayette](#)



## Ice jam causes more flooding

By JOE LARSON  
[jlarrison@journalandcourier.com](mailto:jlarrison@journalandcourier.com)

February 13, 2008

MONTICELLO -- A massive ice jam on Lake Shafer Tuesday caused 5 to 7 inches of water to flow into an unknown number of homes and at least one business.

"I have lived up here all my life and never seen one this bad," said Dan Stearns of Monticello, who marveled at the ice jam from the grounds of Tall Timbers Marina Tuesday afternoon.

To try to break up the tightly-packed ice, NIPSCO repeatedly sped up and slowed down the flow of water through the Norway Dam, according to Gordon Cochran, director of White County's emergency management agency.

He hoped that fluctuating the flow between 7,700 and 9,000 cubic feet per second would be enough to budge the ice.

"If the ice moves a little bit, we're going to be OK," Cochran said Tuesday night. "If it doesn't, we're probably going to have more water in houses tomorrow."

But the jam was still there late Tuesday. The emergency management agency also deployed sandbags to prevent further flooding.

Areas affected by Tuesday's flooding included homes along Stahl Road, West Shafer Drive, Bedford Bay Court and Apple Knob Drive. It was not immediately clear how many homes were damaged.

The water level near Buffalo has also been reported to be rising again, according to Cochran.

Flood-prone areas in Tippecanoe County weren't being impacted by the northern ice jam as of Tuesday, Emergency Management Director Mark Kirby said, but local officials are keeping an eye on the situation. If the jam does cause flooding in the area, Kirby said it would likely be later in the week.

The weather today should help slow any possible flooding. The day should be dry with a high of about 27 degrees, according to meteorologist Chad Omitt of the National Weather Service.

[Back to Lafayette](#)



## Schools await waivers for missed days

By MERANDA WATLING  
[mwatling@journalandcourier.com](mailto:mwatling@journalandcourier.com)

February 13, 2008

Local school superintendents expect to learn this week if the state will waive any of the days missed because of weather this school year.

Indiana requires that students attend class 180 days in a given school year. Exceptions can be and have in the past been made.

That's what districts have asked for following rounds of snow, fog and flooding that battered the region this winter, closing some schools nearly a dozen times already -- with several weeks of winter still ahead.

"It's been a combination of everything," Tri-County School Corp. Superintendent Gib Crimmins said of his district's six missed days. "One of the days ended up being all three. First it was snow, then it flooded and the fog settled in."

Crimmins said his district had two make-up days built into the calendar and created a third one. That still leaves three days tacked on to the end of the school calendar unless a waiver is granted.

As long as no more cancellations are necessary and even without the waivers, Tri-County won't have to move its June 8 graduation date.

Not every district is so lucky.

North White School Corp. will tack on four of its six missed days to the end of year calendar -- pushing it past the planned graduation.

"I'm waiting on a decision because it will impact graduation, it will impact the start of summer school," Rensselaer Central School Corp. Superintendent Steven York said. "It will impact all of our students, teachers and community."

Gary Wallyn, director of school accreditation and awards for the Department of Education, said the schools should hear this week whether waivers have been approved. He said the decision is made based on a district's ability to make up the days.

"We look at every school individually and make a determination," Wallyn said, "based on the law of course, and go from there."

[\*Back to Lafayette\*](#)



## Ice jam still causing problems on Lake Shafer

### STAFF REPORTS

February 13, 2008

MONTICELLO - A massive Lake Shafer ice jam that has been causing flooding along some areas of the lake since Tuesday is still causing problems.

According to Rose Brady, White County's deputy emergency management director, water levels along some areas of the lake rose overnight.

Areas affected by Tuesday's flooding included homes along Stahl Road, West Shafer Drive, Bedford Bay Court and Apple Knob Drive. It was unclear this morning if more areas had flooded.

NIPSCO, which operates the dams on Lakes Shafer and Freeman, has continued its efforts to break up the ice by repeatedly speeding up and slowing down the flow through Norway Dam, she said. Norway Dam blocks the Tippecanoe River to create Lake Shafer.

Though some residents have called for emergency workers to detonate the ice with explosives, that won't happen, Brady said. More common years ago, using explosives to break up ice is less common today.

"It's the Army Corps of Engineers that would do it," she said. But due to the potential damage to property and life, the Corps of Engineers won't do it, she said.

For more on this story, check back with [jconline.com](http://jconline.com) and read Thursday's J&C.

[Back to Lafayette](#)



## Help for Jasper County Flood Victims

Updated: Feb 12, 2008 04:32 PM EST

People who live in Jasper County, and have been affected by recent flooding, can get some help Tuesday night. A public meeting will be held at the Remington United Methodist Church. Representatives of the DNR, Homeland Security, and Emergency Management will be on hand to answer questions. The meeting begins at 7:00 Eastern Time, 6:00 Rensselaer time. The Church is located at 1-21 Ohio Street in Remington.

[\*Back to Lafayette\*](#)





## Bad Weather Causing Potholes, Damaging Cars

Updated: Feb 12, 2008 05:56 PM EST

By: Renetta DuBose

Melting snow and icy roads cause another problem for drivers, potholes, and it's sending more and more people to the repair shop.

If your tire doesn't blow out, you could have a damaged rim. All Star Tire and Service Owner Tony Schabel said some of the smaller holes will not do any damage, but larger holes, hit at the right speed, can have you stuck on the side of the road and dragging your car to the nearest tire shop.

"Once you hit one of those, it's going to be pretty bleak for you. You're gonna need to come see me," said Tony Schabel, All Star Tire and Service Owner, in Lafayette.

The recent flooding and freezing waters have caused major problems on the road. Tippecanoe County Highway Supervisor Jack Fisher said they see a lot of potholes every year.

"Thousands, thousands. We have two total patching machines we run throughout the county and we're talking county gravel which is around 860 miles and that's one lane, so double that we're on the go all the time," said Jack Fisher, Tippecanoe County Highway Supervisor.

Even though fixing the roads is a full time job, the middle of winter can cause major problems for drivers. Schabel said customers have complained a lot.

"Well over the last 30, 45 days we've had more than a dozen calls about someone having a blowout or hitting a chuckhole or damaging a rim," said Schabel.

But not everybody will have to make a trip to the tire shop. Schabel said only those with the right combination of problems.

"If you hit a hole just right and the tire might be a little low on air then your gonna be more susceptible to having a tire issue or tire damage or rim damage than any other time," said Schabel.

Schabel said fixing a single wheel and tire can cost around three or four-hundred dollars. The City of Lafayette started filling potholes this morning, but pulled all their workers off because of the slideoffs that were starting to happen this morning. As for the county, Fisher said his crews will start packing holes tomorrow.

[Back to Lafayette](#)



## **Ice jam on Lake Shafer causes more flooding**

*Associated Press - February 13, 2008 7:54 AM ET*

MONTICELLO, Ind. (AP) - An ice jam on Lake Shafer is causing flood waters to flow into homes and businesses in Monticello.

White County Emergency Management Agency director Gordon Cochran says NIPSCO has increased and decreased the flow of water through the Norway Dam to try to break up the ice. County officials are distributing sandbags.

It's not clear how many homes have been flooded in the area about 20 miles north of Lafayette. At least two businesses along the lake reported flooding.

Heavy rains and snow melt caused flooding along the Tippecanoe River in Monticello and in other areas of northern Indiana last week and last month.

*Copyright 2008 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.*

[Back to Lafayette](#)